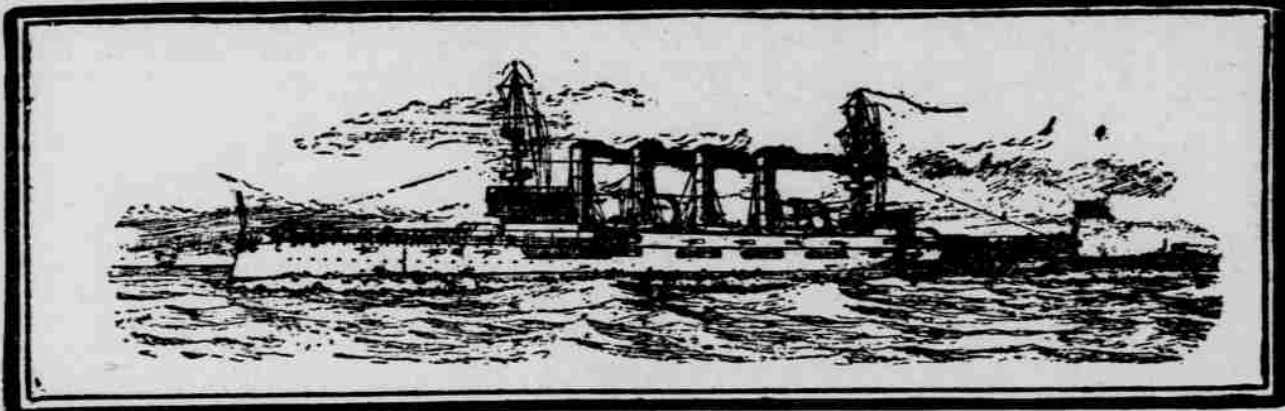


# Western Kansas World.

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## AMERICAN IDEAL OF A FIGHTING SHIP IS THE ARMORED CRUISER CALIFORNIA



The armored cruiser California, the "American ideal of a fighting ship," as naval officers call her, was launched at San Francisco April 28. The electric button which started the vessel on her way to the water was touched by Mrs. Walter S. Martin, daughter of Henry T. Scott, president of the Union Iron works, and the cruiser was christened California by Miss Florence May Pardee, daughter of Gov. Pardee. The cruiser California is sup-

posed to embody the latest and best in vessels of her class. There are to be five vessels like her. She will cost, complete \$5,000,000, her hull and machinery costing \$3,800,000 of that sum and her equipment and armament the remainder. Her principal dimensions are: Length on load water line, 502 feet; extreme breadth, 69½ feet; mean draught, 24 feet, and displacement, 13,440 tons. She will have twin screws and triple-expansion engines of 23,000 horse power, capable of de-

veloping a maximum speed of twenty-two knots. Her main battery is composed of four eight-inch rifles placed in two armored turrets, one forward and one aft; fourteen six-inch and eighteen-inch rapid-fire guns. The secondary battery consists of twelve three-pounder semi-automatic guns, four one-pounder automatic, four one-pounder rapid-fire Hotchkiss guns, two thirty-centimeter Gatlings, six thirty-centimeter automatic Colts, together with two three-inch field pieces.

## CONGRESSMAN WAS NO \$15 A WEEK MAN

Bold Statement of Livingston of Georgia Satisfied Constituents and Won for Him a Re-election.

Congressman Livingston of Georgia is of those who believe that the salary of representatives should be raised from \$5,000 to \$7,500. When in the legislature of his state he always advocated increasing the allowance of members from \$4 to \$7 per day. A hardshell taxpayer took him to task about the matter during a campaign and Livingston explained in this frank fashion: "Yes, I favor the increase and I'll tell you why. I can lodge at the state capital in a cheap boarding

house for \$4 a day. In the morning when I enter the session I am in complete ignorance of what my contemporaries have been doing and planning about the hotels the night before and too ignorant to take part in affairs intelligently. If you want a \$15 a week man to go down there for you under such circumstances, why you'll simply have to get someone else to do it. I don't care to." The crowd of listeners applauded and Livingston was returned by an increased majority.

## French Name, English Statesman.

Napoleon is an unusual, if not unprecedented, Christian name to be borne by the presiding officer of a British parliament. But Napoleon Antoine Belcourt, who has just been elected speaker of the Canadian house of commons, can address meeting or court in fluent and excellent English.

## Gen. Viljoen Has Written Book.

Gen. Ben J. Viljoen, one of the most brilliant leaders in the Boer army, has joined the grand army of military novelists, having written a story of adventure in south Africa during the war. It is said to suggest the biographical in its vividness of incident.

## WHY ONE MAN LOST FAITH IN DOCTORS

Diagnosis of His Case Was So Ridiculous That the Ordinary Man Will Hardly Blame Him.

Congressman Graff of Peoria tells of a constituent who went to Chicago for medical advice. He was a retired saloon-keeper, having made quite a comfortable competence, partly by selling liquor and partly by wise investments of profits. The old gentleman fancied he had heart trouble and visited a physician to learn the truth. The doctor first got his fee of \$25 and then made an examination. At its

conclusion he said gravely: "You must at once give up the use of liquor and tobacco, and above all you must not smoke cigarettes." The patient forcefully demanded his \$25 back for the reason that he had never in his life tasted intoxicants, never used tobacco and abominated cigarettes. The money was returned and from that day to this the ex-saloonkeeper has looked with unmeasured contempt upon the medical fraternity.

## Miss Annie Wheeler Is Loved.

Miss Annie Wheeler is almost as well known as her illustrious father, Gen. Joseph Wheeler. During the Spanish-American war she earned the sobriquet of "Angel of Mercy" in the fever-stricken army hospitals, and stories of her heroism and tenderness have been told since the white flag of peace meant an end to her heroic service to her country. Miss Wheeler has spent the entire winter in New York, where she has been a prominent figure in society. The warmest friendship exists between Miss Wheeler and Miss Helen Gould.

## MAN NEED NOT SUPPORT NAGGING WIFE

Philadelphia Judge Hands Down Decision Over Which There Is Likely to Be No End of Discussion.

There is judicial warrant for the statement that a nagging wife cannot compel her husband to support her. A Philadelphia man, a locomotive engineer, was hauled into court on complaint of his spouse on a charge of non-support. Defendant admitted leaving the woman, but pleaded in excuse that because of her nagging he had no peace in his home. This allegation he proved, whereupon Judge Davis said: "A man who has the care

of hundreds of lives in his hands should be soothed instead of annoyed when he comes home. Peace of mind is one of the essentials of careful workmanship at the throttle, and a wife, by pestering her husband, may endanger the lives entrusted to his keeping as an engineer." The accused was ordered to pay \$5 a week for the support of his little girl, but the judge refused to compel him to provide for his wife.

## USED SAME PAIR OF SCISSORS

Well-Known Philadelphia Artist Turned Tables on Jesters Who Thought to Have Fun with Him.

A certain Philadelphia art club has a custom of creating a great deal of fun at the expense of new members to test their mettle and good fellowship. This, as may be imagined, is excellent fun for the assemblage at large, but is often very trying to the target of it all. Shortly before the election of A. B. Frost, the illustrator of farm scenes, it was reported that he possessed considerable wealth. At

the first club dinner after Mr. Frost's name had been added to the roll the members were primed to derive amusement from his debut. "Hello, Frost," called one when the new member appeared in the dining room; "I hear you are doing nothing but cutting coupons now." "Yes," answered the artist quickly, "and I'm using the same scissors I used to trim my cuffs with."

## INDIANS JOIN THE Y. M. C. A.

Earnest Workers Are Spreading the Movement Among Them.

The Sioux Indian Young Men's Christian association secretary has been speaking at the associations in the vicinity of New York lately. He is a full-blooded Sioux. His name is Ta-sun-ke-mani, or Walking Horse. He travels among the forty-five associations in the Dakotas. Those associations, he says, have recently erected three new log buildings, making the number now occupied thirteen. The Indians built these themselves and gave the money for the hardware, windows, etc., costing \$25 to \$50 apiece. In June he will hold six association training conferences in as many different Indian reservations, which will be attended by from 100 to 400 men, many of them driving several hundred miles to the conference places.

## EXCELLED IN MANY LINES.

Englishman Prominent as Surgeon, Author and Painter.

Sir Henry Thompson, the eminent English surgeon, who died last week in his 84th year, was, in addition to his surgery, especially distinguished for his study in matters of food and diet, and because he was one of the earliest and constant advocates of cremation. At the same time he was insistent on a proper certification of death, equally important whether earth burial or fire burial was to be made. He wrote many books on surgical and medical subjects, all of value. Moreover, he was known with respect as a painter and had exhibited in the Royal academy and the Paris salon. He was interested as well in astronomy, maintaining an observatory of his own. He was created baronet in 1899 and is succeeded in that title by his son.



## Milking With Wet Hands.

In milking, the hands do not need to be wet. The habit of wetting them should be abandoned, as it is practically impossible to keep the hands moist without using the foam on the milk as a source of moisture. The milker may imagine that by merely touching his fingers to the top of the foam no injury comes to the milk, but the habit had better be abandoned in the interest of cleanliness. We think however that some of our writers overdraw the matter when they talk of milkers dipping their fingers into the milk. The inference is that the fingers of the milkers reach the solid milk. The writer has never seen a case of this kind. According to the writers referred to, the milkers dip their fingers into the milk and convey to the teats of the cow so much of the milk that the latter drips from the teats into the pail and oozes out from between the fingers in milking. Who ever saw a case of this kind? But even at its best, the habit of moistening the teats with milk is not one that should be perpetuated. If the hands were to be moistened at all, pure water would have to be kept near for that purpose. This is impracticable. Therefore let us put aside the practice of moistening the teats at all and milk with dry hands.

## An Outrageous Practice.

The men that buy and sell cows at the Union Stockyards, Chicago, are frequently charged with practices that are far from humane. A story we recently heard illustrates the point. A lady living in the outskirts of Chicago visited the stockyards to purchase a milk cow. She happened upon a cow with very fine development of udder and milk veins. As it happened the cow had not been milked that morning, and the dealer at once had a man attend to that important function, in the presence of the lady. The milk yield of the cow was very great and the dealer assured her that he got the same amount of milk each time he milked the cow. The lady paid the price asked for the cow and took her away. In a few days she returned, saying that the cow gave only a moderate—very moderate—amount of milk, and wanted her money back for the cow, as she claimed deception had been used in selling the animal. The dealer told her he could not give her back the money, but that no deception had been practiced. "Madam," said he, "how often do you milk that cow?" "Why," replied the lady, "I milk her twice a day, as everyone else does that milks a cow." "Ah, madam," said the dealer, "that accounts for it; I only milked her twice a week."

## Reckless Feeding of Grain.

Some men never feed grain to their cows and some go to the other extreme and feed too much, thus wasting a high-priced feed material. Only the man that is to some extent an experimenter can tell exactly where the dividing line between profitable and unprofitable feeding of grain is. It is now pretty well established that the men that have been feeding from fifteen to twenty pounds of grain per day to their cows have been wasting a good deal of money. When the roughage is good hay and silage, from five to ten pounds of grain per day is sufficient for all needs in winter, and half of that quantity will do in summer. The feeding of too much grain induces many intestinal diseases and troubles in cows, just as overfeeding a human being would do.

## Who Adds the Formalin?

Talking recently with Professor Eaton of the Illinois Pure Food Commission, a representative of the Farmers' Review was told that the farmers that produce the milk are not the ones that, as a general thing, add the formalin. The farmer keeps the milk but a short time after it is drawn, and during that short time it will not sour. It is the man that keeps it longest that has the most occasion for adding preservatives to it. This may in some cases be the buyer and in others the peddler. Occasionally the consumer is guilty of the same act, thinking that it is a harmless way of keeping his milk sweet. It would be interesting to have a thorough investigation made of the use of preservatives by farmers supplying milk to Chicago.

## Sawdust as Mulch.

Sawdust makes a good mulch for various kinds of fruits, especially for strawberries. Many of our readers doubtless live near saw mills where sawdust can be obtained at a very low cost. This will save the strawberries from becoming dirty and will prevent the loss of moisture between the rows. It also makes a good mulch for gooseberries and currants. In the case of tree fruits it is also useful, but should not be permitted to pack too closely around the trees. Perhaps it is most useful where it is not turned under. Some men are of the opinion that pine sawdust is rather harmful to the soil, but it would be difficult to demonstrate this.



## POULTRY

### Green Food for Poultry.

To be kept in a healthy condition poultry must have a constant supply of green food. In the winter this is not always done nor is it frequently done, and when the spring comes there is all the more reason why green food should be supplied. On the farms where the fowls are given the run of the fields in the spring and early summer, there is no particular need to provide for a supply of green food, but on thousands of farms the hens are kept shut up, especially during the season of garden planting and the early periods of growth of the vegetables. As farmers are coming more and more to growing fruits and vegetables and raising flowers this is necessary; for hens and gardens do not work well together.

Too often the hens are shut into a yard and are given no systematic attention in this regard. The yard may have had green grass in it at the time the fowls were put in, but in a few weeks not a green thing is to be found there. This in itself shows the great craving the fowls have for green food. A little system in this matter will supply the fowls with the things they desire in the way of green food. In the first place the yard should be divided into two parts by a cross fence. There will have to be two places through which the fowls can enter the house, so that the two yards may be readily used. Then keep the fowls in one of the yards while green stuff is being grown in the other.

Rape is one of the best things to put into such a yard and it has the advantage over some other things that the ground will not have to be prepared for it—provided the grass has been eaten down to the roots by the fowls. The rape seed is quite large in size and the sprouts readily take hold of the ground. In a couple of months a good crop should be growing. It is best not to turn the fowls in before the rape has become twelve or more inches high. Then they may be turned in and will quickly convince anyone that they have a fondness for rape. They will strip off all the thin parts of the leaves leaving only the midveins. This may take them a month to do. But in the meanwhile the rape goes right on growing, and when the hens are taken out of the yard, the plants grow again from the midveins. This produces a second growth more quickly than the first. In the same yard should also be sown lettuce, of which the fowls are very fond if they can pick it themselves. Fowls never seem to care much about green stuff if it is cut for them. Doubtless this is because they find a blade of grass or the like too difficult to eat. When it is growing on its own roots they pick off just the amount they can swallow at a time, while if it is cut for them they cannot easily divide it.

Oats are sometimes sown for poultry, but the writer has not generally found that the fowls cared for the oat plant. However, at the North Carolina experiment station we saw oats growing in the poultry yards, and the superintendent of the poultry declared that the fowls ate them readily. Of any single green feed we are more pleased with rape than anything else, which is both easily grown and readily eaten by the fowls.

### Profits in Guinea Hens.

The guinea, which is so despised by so many people, I think is one of the most interesting and profitable fowls that we have on the farm. They are great foragers in summer time when insects and weed seeds are plentiful. They will make their own living on the two articles named above, either or both of which are a pest to the farmer. You can trust them in your garden. They will not bother anything that you want. When the weather gets warm in spring you can count on one egg from each hen every day, rain or shine. While eggs are not as large as some eggs, if you want to sell them they will bring the same price as other eggs. If you want to eat them you can't find a finer flavored egg. If you want to eat the guinea the young ones are just splendid. I don't think they can be beat by any fowl. I think white guineas are best, as their flesh is whiter and their skin is more yellow, and they are not so wild as the colored ones. The white guinea will usually lay where the chickens hens lay, especially if they have been raised by chicken hens, which I think is the best way to raise them. I expect to have white guineas while I have chickens.

A. J. Copeland,  
Vermilion County, Illinois.

The pure-bred animal is more likely to transmit its qualities than is the animal of mixed breeding.

A smooth wire fence of any kind is more desirable than a barb wire one.



## FARM

## SCCELLANY

### Seed Corn in the Ear.

The matter of selling seed corn in the ear is receiving a good deal of attention at the present time. In an interview with J. C. Vaughan, that gentleman, who is one of our oldest seedsmen, said that he had no doubt the practice had come to stay. He himself had believed for twenty years that the only way to sell seed corn was in the ear, and in 1885 he tried to establish the custom, but found himself far in advance of his times. The times have now caught up with him in this matter. In the year mentioned he laid in a large stock of corn in the ear and advertised it largely. But he could sell little of this corn for the reason that corn in the ear cost more to the consumer than shelled corn. He tried sending out sample ears at 5 cents each, but few would buy even the sample ears. His prices for corn on the ear ran at from \$1.80 to \$2.50 per bushel, while his competitors were selling shelled corn at from \$1.25 to \$1.75 per bushel. The price was a weightier matter at that time than the quality of the corn, as all farmers then believed that "corn was corn." It is noticeable that this year corn of selected varieties is selling at as high as \$3.00 per bushel and the seedsmen are unable to supply the demand.

The cause of the change in public sentiment in this matter is the amount of information our agricultural colleges and agricultural papers have spread among the people. They have shown the great value of selected seed corn, and have demonstrated that the difference in money value between two bushels of corn may be very great.

### Sheep Pasture.

I know two Lincoln flocks in England that have been kept on the same farms by father and son down, for 125 years, until now they have arrived at such a state of perfection that the fact of a Lincoln sheep being bred by Dudding or Dean is a guarantee of its superiority. Sheep from these flocks took about all the prizes offered for that breed of sheep at the World's Fair. I think this fact should be sufficient answer to those who are continually changing their flock. I would say to such, change your management, not your sheep. Another thing that probably should be done for ewes would be to give them as additional pasture a strip of turnips or mangels, a bushel and a half a day, fed with good, clean pea straw twice a day, and an occasional feed of clover will take them along until within two or three weeks of lambing. Then a few oats would help to bring on a stronger lamb and put the ewe in a better condition to give a good flow of milk. To or three acres of rye, to turn into early, would keep the flock going for five or six weeks, when the piece could be plowed down and rape sown. This would come in nicely for the lambs at weaning time, and would send them on ready for the market, and at very little cost. If you could have an acre or two of peas and oats to follow the rye you would need very little pasture, except for a change. Another good plan for sheep pasture, where corn is grown is to sow about a pound and a half of rape seed broadcast, the last time of cultivating.—R. J. Hine.

### Cow-Pea Hay.

Cow-pea hay as a feed for all hay-eating animals has not been fully appreciated. It is very much superior to the true grasses, the difference in favor of first quality cow-pea hay not infrequently being double the feeding value of the ordinary grass hays usually found on the market. As compared with alfalfa and Red clover hays, cow-pea hay is superior in composition and at least in digestibility. A ton of cow-pea hay is equal in feeding value to a ton of wheat bran, the proportions and quantities of digestible food elements being practically the same in the two feeds, yet on the local market cow-pea hay sells for from twelve to fourteen dollars per ton and wheat bran from eighteen to twenty dollars per ton. An equal quantity of the two feeds will produce practically the same amount of milk, energy, or growth.—C. L. Newman.

### Feeding Meat.

We have raised poultry for years, and have fed meat in various ways; have tried many experiments; and after all our work we really cannot say that meat food is a valuable egg producer, or that it increases the fertility of the eggs. Where fowls are confined in pens, meat food is more necessary than where they have a large range; and we think crushed green bone is the best form of meat food. Where fowls have range they do not suffer for meat food. Pure water in abundance, grain and green food are needed to make poultry pay. A variety of grains and green or succulent foods are far more important than meat.

Mrs. Nellie Bullock.